

# Ukraine – Complex Emergency

MAY 5, 2023

## SITUATION AT A GLANCE

**8,709**

UN-Confirmed  
Civilian Deaths  
Resulting From  
the Conflict

*OHCHR – May 2023*

**8.2**  
MILLION

Refugees From  
Ukraine Recorded  
Across Europe

*UNHCR – May 2023*

**5.4**  
MILLION

People Internally  
Displaced  
Across Ukraine

*IOM – January 2023*

**17.6**  
MILLION

People in Need of  
Humanitarian  
Assistance in Ukraine

*UN – January 2023*

**3.6**  
MILLION

People Reached With  
Humanitarian  
Assistance in Ukraine  
in 2023

*UN – April 2023*

- GoRF continued aerial attacks across Ukraine in late April and early May, resulting in civilian deaths, injuries, and damage to infrastructure.
- Communities in frontline areas of Donetsk *Oblast* face a worsening humanitarian crisis amid escalated fighting in recent months.
- The UN continued to reach frontline communities with relief commodities through humanitarian convoys in April.
- Hostilities in the area surrounding ZNPP continue to pose a risk to the plant, according to the IAEA.



## TOTAL U.S. GOVERNMENT HUMANITARIAN FUNDING

For the Ukraine Response in FY 2023

USAID/BHA<sup>1</sup>

\$400,015,750

*For complete funding breakdown with partners, see detailed chart on page 7*

**Total**

**\$400,015,750**

<sup>1</sup> USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (USAID/BHA)

## KEY DEVELOPMENTS

### GoRF Forces Launch Waves of Attacks Against Population Centers in Ukraine

Government of the Russian Federation (GoRF) forces continued aerial attacks across Ukraine in late April and early May. On April 28, GoRF forces launched a wave of at least 23 missiles—21 of which were reportedly intercepted by Ukrainian air defenses—and two single-use unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) against civilian population centers in areas of Ukraine far from the front line, resulting in at least 25 deaths and injury to at least 18 other people, according to international media. In Cherkasy *Oblast's* Uman city, one of the missiles struck three multi-story residential buildings, killing 23 people—including four children—and injuring at least 18 others, international media reports. Another missile impact damaged a residence and industrial warehouse in Dnipropetrovsk *Oblast's* Dnipro city, resulting in two deaths and injury to an estimated four other people. In addition, falling debris from a missile caused injury to a child in Kyiv *Oblast*.

On May 1, GoRF forces launched another wave of nearly 20 missiles, with approximately 15 missiles reportedly intercepted by Ukrainian air defenses during the attack, international media reports. The strike resulted in injury to at least 34 people in Dnipropetrovsk's Pavlohrad city, as well as damage to approximately 25 houses, an industrial site, nearly 20 residential buildings, and three schools.

On May 3, GoRF forces launched additional aerial attacks—including airstrikes, artillery, rockets, and UAVs—at Kherson city and surrounding populated areas in Kherson *Oblast*, resulting in 23 deaths and injury to at least 48 other people, including two children, Government of Ukraine (GoU) officials and international media report. The attacks also damaged shops, a railway station, and residences in the city. On May 4, acting UN Humanitarian Coordinator in Ukraine Matthew Hollingworth condemned the escalated attacks against civilians in Ukraine in recent days, noting that attacks struck the train station and supermarket in Kherson during the busiest hours of the day for civilians.

Meanwhile, GoRF forces continued to target frontline areas of eastern Ukraine with frequent shelling. In Donetsk *Oblast*, GoRF hostilities resulted in two deaths in Shakhtarske village on April 24 and injured 13 people across the *oblast* on the same day, according to international media. Additional aerial attacks from April 25 to 26 resulted in at least three deaths and injury to four people across Donetsk, local GoU officials report. GoRF attacks continued on April 28, resulting in one death in Donetsk's Toretsk town and injury to 11 other people across the *oblast*, GoU officials report. Two days later, additional GoRF attacks caused injury to three people in Donetsk's Bakhmut town. From May 2 to 3, attacks killed two residents in Donetsk's Velyka Novosilka and Zarichne towns and injured nine other people across other settlements.

In southern Ukraine, Kherson *Oblast* remains subject to daily attacks by GoRF forces positioned on the eastern bank of the Dnipro River. GoRF shelling of Kherson from April 21 to 23 resulted in at least three deaths and injury to eight others, according to local GoU officials. GoRF aerial attacks on Kherson's Kizomys village—located within 12 miles of the front line—continued on April 23, injuring two people and damaging a school and at least 25 residences. The escalating attacks on the community led local authorities to increase the evacuation of civilians from Kizomys, and they had reportedly evacuated all families with children from the area by April 30.

### Communities in Donetsk Face Severe Humanitarian Need Amid Escalated Fighting

Escalated ground fighting and other hostilities during March and April have resulted in a worsening

humanitarian crisis in the area surrounding Donetsk's Marinka *hromada*, located on the front line, according to the UN. The area has been one of the focal points of heavy fighting in Ukraine to date in 2023, along with Donetsk's Avdiivka and Bakhmut towns to the north. As of early May, an estimated 5,000 civilians—including 400 children—remain in the nearly 20 settlements of Marinka, compared to a pre-invasion population of approximately 40,000 people. These villages have limited access to electricity, gas, or piped water due to damage to infrastructure from frequent shelling despite efforts by service providers to conduct repairs. Amid the widespread destruction of critical infrastructure, as well as disrupted markets, people in the area heavily rely on humanitarian aid and support from local groups to meet basic needs, according to an international non-governmental organization (INGO).

Furthermore, civilians in Vuhledar *hromada*—approximately 15 miles southwest of Marinka—face similarly dire humanitarian conditions. The 1,100 people remaining in the area—compared to a pre-invasion population of 26,000 people—have limited to no access to food, electricity, gas, health care, and water, according to the UN. Many remaining residents live in homes damaged by hostilities and are in urgent need of shelter kits and other household items. Access to the area for humanitarian organizations and other civilian groups is increasingly constrained due to active fighting and a lack of telecommunications coverage. Additionally, regular shelling has also severely degraded infrastructure—including health facilities, houses, markets, and schools—in neighboring Kurakhove *hromada*, six miles west of Marinka. However, the UN notes conditions in Kurakhove—with largely reliable electricity supply and active emergency medical services—are slightly less severe than in Marinka or Vuhledar, and the area has a remaining population of 23,000 people and hosts nearly 6,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs).

Humanitarians are continuing efforts to complement the assistance provided by local authorities and volunteer groups in Kurakhove, Marinka, and Vuhledar, despite challenges posed by prolonged insecurity. Two UN-led humanitarian convoys reached Kurakhove on February 15 and April 7, including participation from USAID/BHA partners, delivering blankets, food, hygiene kits, medicine, safe drinking water, shelter supplies, solar lamps, and critical household items to support approximately 15,000 people in need in the area. During these deliveries, UN agencies and INGOs relied on Ukrainian organizations for last-mile delivery.

## **UN Humanitarian Convoys Deliver Aid to Frontline Areas in April**

As part of the same effort that delivered assistance to areas around Kurakhove via convoys in recent months, the UN continued to deliver assistance to hard-to-reach communities in other areas of Ukraine in April, including eight UN-led interagency convoys to frontline areas in Donetsk, Kharkiv, Kherson, and Zaporizhzhya *oblasts*. On April 20, a UN-led convoy—which included USAID/BHA partners the International Organization for Migration (IOM) the UN World Food Program (WFP), and the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF), as well as U.S. Department of State Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM) partner the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)—delivered children's clothing, food, hygiene kits, and shelter kits sufficient to support approximately 11,000 people, including 500 children, remaining near the front line in Kharkiv's Kupiansk town, according to the UN. Additionally, on April 26, a UN-led humanitarian convoy reached Zaporizhzhya's Orikhiv town, approximately six miles from the front line, the UN reports. The convoy delivered urgently needed shelter and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) assistance, including bedding and solar lamps, to support approximately 1,600 people remaining in the town. The April 26 delivery represents the third UN-led convoy in 2023 to deliver assistance to the town, which is subject to frequent hostilities. On April 28, a UN-led convoy—with participation from USAID/BHA partners IOM, UNICEF, WFP, and the UN World Health Organization (WHO), as well as State/PRM partner

UNHCR—delivered food, hygiene kits, medicine, and shelter materials to support the approximately 3,000 people remaining in Donetsk’s Lyman town. The town has experienced regular aerial attacks by GoRF forces since it was retaken by the GoU in late 2022.

### Hostilities Continue to Pose Risks to Zaporizhzhya Nuclear Power Plant

Military activity in areas of Zaporizhzhya *Oblast* continues to pose risks to Ukraine’s Zaporizhzhya Nuclear Power Plant (ZNPP), located on the front line in eastern Ukraine. The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) has maintained a permanent presence at the plant since September 2022 to reduce the risk of a radiological incident. In late April, IAEA support mission staff reported audible shelling and one nearby land mine explosion. As of April 28, ZNPP continues to receive off-site power to maintain necessary nuclear safety functions via a single external power line, with the sole backup power line remaining disconnected since it was damaged on March 1. Five of the plant’s six reactor units are in a cold shutdown state as of April 21, while one reactor remains in a hot shutdown mode producing steam for the site, IAEA reports. Relief actors consistently express concern that any radiological incident at ZNPP could threaten civilians and generate large-scale displacement.

### USAID/BHA Supports Vehicles for UNFPA Psychosocial Support Teams

On April 25, USAID/BHA funded the handover of 60 vehicles from the UN Population Fund (UNFPA) to its local implementing partners in Ukraine’s capital city of Kyiv. U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine Bridget A. Brink attended the event, along with USAID’s Ukraine Mission Director James Hope, USAID’s Ukraine Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART) Leader, and GoU officials. The vehicles will enable UNFPA’s local Ukrainian partners to continue providing gender-based violence (GBV) prevention and response services through mobile teams working across the country, including in hard-to-reach areas and areas near the front line. UNFPA supports approximately 100 psychosocial support mobile teams in more than 20 *oblasts* across the country. During March, the UN agency’s mobile teams provided psychosocial counseling services to nearly 2,500 people.

## KEY FIGURES



**2.3 Million**

People in Ukraine reached with USAID/BHA-supported in-kind food assistance via WFP in March



**11**

USG implementing partners providing MPCA

## U.S. GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

### FOOD SECURITY

To meet increasing food needs since the GoRF invasion, USAID/BHA is supporting WFP and three INGOs to provide food assistance in Ukraine. WFP continues to prioritize food distributions in eastern and southern Ukraine, where fighting and supply chain disruptions hinder food access for vulnerable populations in frontline areas. During March, WFP reached more than 2.3 million people in Ukraine with in-kind food distributions, including children who received supplementary feeding to prevent malnutrition.

### MULTIPURPOSE CASH ASSISTANCE

The USG supports the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), IOM, UNHCR, WFP, and seven INGOs to provide multipurpose cash assistance (MPCA) to help conflict-affected individuals meet their basic needs. Cash in the form of cash-based transfers and vouchers allows displaced or other conflict-affected people to meet their immediate needs—such as clothing, food, fuel, shelter, or utilities—through local markets and provides a more efficient means of reaching

vulnerable communities than providing in-kind commodities. With support from USAID/BHA and other donors, WFP provided cash-based transfers to nearly 724,000 conflict-affected individuals across Ukraine in March alone. As of February 23, State/PRM partner UNHCR provided MPCA to more than 1.1 million people across Ukraine. As of January 27, UNHCR provided MPCA to more than 476,000 refugees in Bulgaria, Moldova, Poland, Romania, and Slovakia. State/PRM is also supporting IOM to provide MPCA to refugees in neighboring countries, as well as UNICEF to provide cash assistance to vulnerable households with children in transit.



## 4.9 Million

Number of people able to receive health care with supplies distributed by USG partner UNICEF

## HEALTH

To support the health needs of conflict-affected populations, USG humanitarian partners are providing health care supplies, medicine, and other health assistance in Ukraine and neighboring countries. USAID/BHA is supporting the UNFPA, UNICEF, WHO, and seven INGO partners to respond to emergency health needs in Ukraine. With USG and other donor support, UNICEF has provided medical supplies sufficient to treat more than 4.9 million people across Ukraine since late February 2022. Meanwhile, as of mid-April, USAID/BHA partner WHO had delivered more than 160 generators and nearly 2,400 metric tons of medical supplies to Ukraine since February 2022.

State/PRM is also supporting IOM, UNFPA, UNICEF, WHO, and other international organizations to provide health care services to refugees in neighboring countries. This support includes meeting urgent trauma care needs by deploying emergency medical teams, delivering essential medical supplies and equipment, providing support for persons with disabilities, and providing logistics support to fill urgent gaps. State/PRM health support in multiple countries in the region serves to strengthen the capacity of local health systems to support increased numbers of refugees.



## 20

Number of USG implementing partners providing essential protection services

## PROTECTION

Armed conflict often exacerbates protection risks. Civilians must cope with threats such as sexual violence, family separation, exploitative labor, exclusion from life-saving humanitarian assistance, and domestic abuse. In response, USAID/BHA supports IOM, UNFPA, UNICEF, UN Women—through USAID/BHA's partnership with the UN Development Program (UNDP)—and WHO, as well as 12 INGOs and one Ukrainian NGO to implement protection interventions for conflict-affected populations in Ukraine. USAID/BHA partners provide mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) services to children, persons with disabilities, and older people; operate mobile protection teams to reach remote communities with GBV prevention and response activities, legal assistance, and MHPSS; and conduct other protection activities. Since February 24, 2022, UNICEF-supported MHPSS interventions have reached nearly 3.4 million children and caregivers to help them cope with the psychosocial effects of conflict and displacement. UNICEF has also provided approximately 352,000 women and children with GBV prevention, risk mitigation, and response services.

In addition, State/PRM partners—including IOM, UN Women, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, an INGO, and other international organizations—provide protection and legal services to vulnerable individuals in Ukraine and neighboring countries. Services include GBV prevention and response, child protection, and MHPSS support; prevention and response to trafficking in persons; and establishment of child-friendly and women- and girl-friendly spaces. Partners are also establishing Blue Dots, which are multi-agency facilities that provide one-stop protection services and social service referrals to new refugee arrivals in neighboring countries. As of April 21, UNHCR had established 37 Blue Dots, which reach tens of thousands of people with protection services in Bulgaria, Hungary, Italy, Moldova, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, and Slovenia.



## 5.6 Million

Number of people supported with safe drinking water through USG partner UNICEF since February 2022

## WASH

Disaster-affected populations are often more susceptible to waterborne diseases due to reduced access to safe drinking water, sanitation services, and hygiene items. In response, USG partners are providing WASH support to conflict-affected populations, including hygiene kits containing soap and other items; repairing damaged WASH infrastructure; and transporting and distributing safe drinking water in conflict-affected areas. Overall, USAID/BHA supports IOM, UNICEF, eight INGO partners, and one Ukrainian NGO partner to address WASH needs in Ukraine. With support from USAID/BHA and other donors, UNICEF has facilitated access to safe drinking water for more than 5.6 million people in Ukraine since February 24, 2022. State/PRM partners are also providing WASH assistance in Ukraine and to refugees in neighboring countries, including strengthening sanitation infrastructure in shelters and distributing hygiene kits to refugees.

## CONTEXT IN BRIEF

- The GoRF commenced a full-scale invasion of Ukraine on February 24, 2022, after mobilizing hundreds of thousands of military forces and heavy weaponry near its border with Ukraine and subsequently launching widespread attacks. Immediately prior, the GoRF had ordered forces into non-GoU-controlled areas of Donetsk and Luhansk *oblasts* after recognizing the areas' independence from Ukraine on February 21.
- The GoRF invasion marked a major escalation of conflict in Ukraine, where fighting in the country's eastern *oblasts* had caused large-scale population displacement and widespread damage to infrastructure since March 2014. The heaviest fighting had occurred in the easternmost *oblasts* bordering Russia, particularly Donetsk and Luhansk; however, the large influx of IDPs from these areas had also impacted neighboring *oblasts*. The UN estimated that 2.9 million conflict-affected people in eastern Ukraine required humanitarian assistance as of early 2022, prior to the February 24 GoRF invasion.
- On February 24, 2022, USAID announced the activation of a Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART) to lead the USG humanitarian response to the crisis in Ukraine, with initial staff in Rzeszów,

Poland; Chişinău, Moldova; Budapest, Hungary; Bucharest, Romania; and Bratislava, Slovakia. To support the DART, USAID activated a Response Management Team in Washington, D.C. State/PRM staff in Warsaw, Poland; Budapest, Hungary; Chişinău, Moldova; Bucharest, Romania; Bratislava, Slovakia; and Washington, D.C., also continue to support response activities.

- On October 21, 2022, U.S. Ambassador Bridget A. Brink renewed the declaration of humanitarian need for Ukraine for FY 2023 due to widespread displacement and continued humanitarian needs of vulnerable populations in Ukraine resulting from the GoRF's full-scale invasion.

## USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE UKRAINE RESPONSE IN FY 2023<sup>1</sup>

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
<b>UKRAINE</b>			
USAID/BHA			
IOM	MPCA, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Countrywide	\$25,000,000
UNICEF	Shelter and Settlements	Donetsk, Dnipropetrovsk, Kharkiv, Kherson, Kirovohrad, Kyiv, Lviv, Mykolayiv, Odesa, Poltava, Vinnytsya, Zaporizhzhya, Zhytomyr	\$17,475,728
	Humanitarian Coordination, Information Management, and Assessments (HCIMA); Protection; WASH	Countrywide	\$30,524,272
WFP	Food Assistance—Cash Transfers for Food, Food Vouchers, Local, Regional, and International Procurement; Logistics Support; MPCA	Countrywide	\$270,500,000
WHO	Health	Chernihiv, Donetsk, Dnipropetrovsk, Kherson, Kyiv, Luhansk, Lviv, Mykolayiv, Poltava, Rivne, Sumy, Vinnytsya, Zaporizhzhya, Zhytomyr	\$4,406,948
Implementing Partners	Logistics Support, MPCA, Protection, WASH	Countrywide	\$50,599,722
	Power Infrastructure Support		\$824,000
	Logistics Support		\$327,730
	Program Support		\$357,350
<b>TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING</b>			<b>\$400,015,750</b>
<b>TOTAL USG FUNDING FOR THE UKRAINE RESPONSE IN FY 2023</b>			<b>\$400,015,750</b>

<sup>1</sup> Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. Funding figures reflect publicly announced FY 2023 funding that has been committed or obligated as of February 24, 2023. For information on the USG funding toward the response in FY 2022, refer to Ukraine Fact Sheet #29 released on September 30, 2022, available on the USAID website at <https://www.usaid.gov/humanitarian-assistance/where-we-work>.

## PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION

- The most effective way people can assist relief efforts is by making cash contributions to humanitarian organizations that are conducting relief operations. A list of humanitarian organizations that are accepting cash donations for disaster responses around the world can be found at [interaction.org](https://interaction.org).
- USAID encourages cash donations because they allow aid professionals to procure the exact items needed, often in the affected region; reduce the burden on scarce resources, such as transportation routes, staff time, and warehouse space; can be transferred very quickly and without transportation costs; support the economy of the disaster-stricken region; and ensure culturally, dietarily, and environmentally appropriate assistance.

- More information can be found at:
  - USAID Center for International Disaster Information: [cidi.org](https://cidi.org)
  - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at [reliefweb.int](https://reliefweb.int).

USAID/BHA bulletins appear on the USAID website at [usaid.gov/humanitarian-assistance/where-we-work](https://www.usaid.gov/humanitarian-assistance/where-we-work)